

Add the following new claims 28 and 29:

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--28. An article according to claim 16, wherein the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$), and wherein the substrate material comprises EMAA.--

--29. A flexible anisotropic magnet according to claim 22, wherein the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$), and wherein the matrix material comprises EMAA.--

REMARKS

Applicants hereby respectfully request a five month extension of time for responding to the aforementioned Office Action. The Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account number 02-4377 in the amount of \$985.00 to cover the extension fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(5).

Claims 13-27 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 13-15, 18 and 24 are being cancelled without prejudice to applicants' right to reinstate the cancelled claims in the present application, in a continuation application or in divisional application. Specifically, cancellation of claims 18 and 24 shall not be taken as acquiescence by applicants of the restriction requirement as to those claims.

In the aforementioned Official Action, original claims 18 and 24 were each subject to a restriction requirement for being allegedly generic to a plurality of patentably distinct species comprising the magnetic particle selected from a first Markush group in combination with a matrix material selected from a second Markush group. The

bases for the restriction requirement as to claims 18 and 24 are now obviated by the cancellation of those claims.

By this amendment, new claims 28 and 29 are being added. Claim 28 depends from claim 16 and has the added requirements that "the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$)" and that "the matrix material comprises EMAA." Support for the additional requirements of claim 28 may be found, for example, in the description of Example 1 on pages 20-23 of applicants' specification. Lines 6-8 on page 20 of applicants' specification specifically state that "[a] flexible, anisotropic magnet having dispersed strontium ferrite (SF) particles ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$; Curie temperature=450°C) in a polyethylene methacrylic acid copolymer matrix material (EMAA; melting point = 95°C) was made according to the following process." Accordingly, new claim 28 is not drawn to new matter.

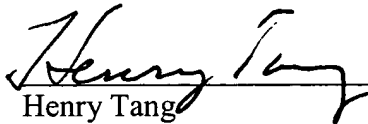
Claim 29 depends from claim 22 and has the additional requirements that "the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$)" and that the "matrix material comprises EMAA." Support for these additional requirements of claim 29, which are the same additional requirements recited in claim 28, are likewise found in Example 1 described on pages 20-23 of applicants' specification. Thus, new claim 29 is also not drawn to new matter.

PATENT

In light of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement and commencement of prosecution of the present application on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with Markings to Show ChangesIN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 13, 14, 15, 18 and 24.

Please add the following new claims 28 and 29:

--28. An article according to claim 16, wherein the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$), and wherein the substrate material comprises EMAA.--

--29. A flexible anisotropic magnet according to claim 22, wherein the magnetic particles comprise strontium ferrite ($\text{SrFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$), and wherein the matrix material comprises EMAA.--